

## Message Text

PAGE 01 SAIGON 18173 181234Z

44

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 010266

O 181205Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8216

S E C R E T SAIGON 18173

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP VS

SUBJECT: MEDICAL TREATMENT AT WALTER REED FOR RVN VICE  
PRESIDENT HUONG

1. PRESIDENT THIEU HAS ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO PRESIDENT NIXON HIS REQUEST FOR A PARTICULAR FAVOR. HE SAID THAT THE HEALTH OF THE VICE PRESIDENT WAS STEADILY DETERIORATING. HE SAID HE AND THE PRIME MINISTER HAVE CONSULTED WITH VIETNAMESE AND AMERICAN PHYSICIANS AND FOUND UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT WAS PROBABLY SUFFERING FROM A RAPIDLY SPREADING LUNG CANCER. HE SAID HE ALSO FOUND UNANIMOUS MEDICAL AGREEMENT THAT A BIOPSY SHOULD ONLY BE PERFORMED AT THE SAME PLACE WHERE SURGERY AND/OR RADIATION THERAPY WOULD BE AVAILABLE. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE AND THE PRIME MINISTER SUBSEQUENTLY HAD A LONG TALK WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT WHO HAD HAD THE ENTIRE SITUATION PRESENTED TO HIM WITH COMPLETE FRANKNESS. THE VICE PRESIDENT HAD SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT ARRANGEMENT BE MADE TO HAVE THE EXAMINATION AND SUBSEQUENT SURGERY OR TREATMENT DONE AT WALTER REED.

2. PRESIDENT THIEU HOPED VERY MUCH THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WOULD AUTHORIZE THIS TO BE DONE. I SAID I WOULD IMMEDIATELY REPORT HIS REQUEST TO THE PRESIDENT AND WOULD ADVISE HIM AS SOON AS I HAD A REPLY.

3. I SUBSEQUENTLY WENT OVER THE CASE WITH OUR EMBASSY PHYSICIAN WHO HAD BEEN ONE OF THE PHYSICIANS WITH WHOM THE PRESIDENT AND  
SECRET

PAGE 02 SAIGON 18173 181234Z

THE PRIME MINISTER HAD TALKED. HE COMPLETELY CONFIRMED WHAT THE PRESIDENT HAD TOLD ME AND SAID THAT DUE TO THE AGE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT, 72, AND THE COMPLICATIONS OF HYPERTENSION AND DIABETES, A MEDICAL EVACUATION PLANE SHOULD BE USED. HE FURTHER

SAID THE VICE PRESIDENT, HIS SON AND HIS PHYSICIAN WOULD BE READY  
TO DEPART THIS WEEKEND.

4. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I THOROUGHLY SUPPORT THE REQUEST  
OF PRESIDENT THIEU AND HOPE THAT APPROVAL WILL BE FORTHCOMING  
AND THAT A MEDICAL EVACUATION PLANE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE THIS  
WEEKEND.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY SOONEST.  
MARTIN

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 11 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** worrelsw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON18173  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** P750018-1144  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731065/abqcehtc.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** worrelsw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEDICAL TREATMENT AT WALTER REED FOR RVN VICE PRESIDENT HUONG  
**TAGS:** OVIP, AMED, VS, (NIXON, RICHARD M), (HUONG)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005